



# BOWIE POLICE DEPARTMENT

October 1, 2019

Caroline Haskins

2019-PIA-006

By email sent September 2, 2019, you have requested copies of documentation and correspondences from the City of Bowie pursuant to the Maryland Public Information Act (hereinafter, "PIA"), Md. Ann. Code, Gen. Provs. Art., §4-101 *et seq.* Specifically:

- 1) All instructional materials on the use of Ring devices
- 2) Copies of policies, Standard operating procedures, Requests for proposals, or Memorandums of Understanding between Ring and the police department.
- 3) Copies of any funding opportunities for Ring or the Neighbors App
- 4) Any digital communications as well as documents that mention Ring or the Neighbors App
- 5) Any digital communications with Ring representatives

The City has checked its files and has the following information that is responsive to your request:

- 1) A copy of the MOU was previously included in the 10-day response.
- 2) The digital communications/documents for Ring and the Neighbors App is attached to this response.
- 3) The digital communications with Ring representatives is attached to this response.
- 4) No other documents or instructional materials pertaining to your request were located.

The Department has completed its search and will waive fees associated with the completion of this PIA request. The results of this PIA request are attached to this document and being sent electronically.

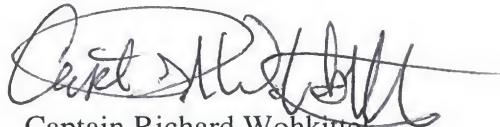
You are advised that you have certain remedies under the PIA to contest the City's determination to withhold any requested documents. Specifically, if you believe that the City's determination to withhold the documents in question is not authorized by the PIA, you may seek judicial review of this determination pursuant to § 10-623 of the PIA, by filing an appropriate action in the Prince George's County Circuit Court. If a court of competent jurisdiction finds that the City has wrongfully withheld a document, it may enjoin the City from continuing to withhold it. The court may also award actual damages

if it finds by clear and convincing evidence that any defendant knowingly and willfully failed disclose or provide a copy of a public record that the complainant was entitled to inspect. If the court determines that the complainant has substantially prevailed, the court may assess against a defendant governmental unit reasonable counsel fees and other litigation costs that the complainant reasonably incurred.

In addition, the Act provides a mechanism for challenging a fee assessed by a governmental body. The PIA Compliance Board is an independent State entity that hears and decides complaints involving allegations that a government custodian has imposed an unreasonable fee of more than \$350 under the PIA. The Board cannot decide other issues that may arise between a requester and a custodian of records under the PIA.

The Public Access Ombudsman mediates disputes under the Public Information Act. The Ombudsman's duties focus on attempting to resolve disputes between a requester and a records custodian about a pending request for public information.

Respectfully,



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